

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DELPHINE ALLEN, et al.,  
Plaintiffs,  
v.  
CITY OF OAKLAND, et al.,  
Defendants.

MASTER CASE FILE  
NO. C00-4599 TEH

ORDER REQUIRING PLAN RE:  
OCCUPY OAKLAND INTERNAL  
AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

Based on the Monitor's most recent quarterly report, filed on April 30, 2012, it is apparent that Defendants will be unable to comply with the 180-day investigation deadline, mandated by both the Negotiated Settlement Agreement ("NSA") and Department policy, as to many of the complaints that have been filed arising out of Occupy Oakland activities, including large-scale events on October 25 and November 2, 2011. Given the magnitude and scope of the investigations that had yet to be completed at the time of the Monitor's review, it is also not clear whether Defendants will be able to complete all investigations in time for discipline, if any is found to be appropriate, to be imposed in compliance with California Government Code section 3304.

This is far from the first time the Court has expressed concern with the manner in which Defendants have handled – or failed to handle, as the case has been – the investigation of complaints. Seven years ago, the Court was forced to order Defendants to address 775 citizen contacts entered into the Internal Affairs Division ("IAD") database that the former Independent Monitoring Team discovered had not been assigned IAD case numbers. Several months later, it came to light that Defendants had placed numerous complaints, including 26 cases of allegations of Class I misconduct – the most serious level – in a so-called "tickler file," a correspondence file where the complaints languished without investigation either as a result of incompetence or bad faith. At multiple status conferences since then, the Court has

1 underscored the importance of correcting the serious deficiencies in the operations of IAD –  
2 one of the linchpins of the NSA, as well as of any effective police department.

3 It would be problematic enough if, as seems inevitable, Defendants' compliance levels  
4 were to backslide as a result of their failure to address the Occupy Oakland complaints in a  
5 timely fashion. It would be an even greater injustice if the investigations were to reveal  
6 serious misconduct for which discipline is warranted but cannot be imposed because the  
7 investigations were delayed beyond the time frame allowed by California statute. Such  
8 failures would be further indication that, despite the changed leadership at the City of  
9 Oakland and its police department, Defendants might still lack the will, capacity, or both to  
10 complete the reforms to which they so long ago agreed.

11 The Monitor has informed the Court that multiple City officials have themselves  
12 expressed the view that the Department lacks capacity to complete all of the outstanding  
13 investigations without outside assistance. The Monitor has further informed the Court that  
14 the City originally intended to expand its contract with an outside consultant to conduct  
15 internal affairs investigations related to Occupy Oakland, but that this decision has been  
16 plagued by a series of delays. It appears that timely action on this extremely critical issue  
17 will not be taken without further intervention by this Court.

18 Accordingly, with good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

19 1. On or before **May 7, 2012**, Defendants shall provide to the Monitor in writing a  
20 specific plan, including timelines, as to how they will address all outstanding internal affairs  
21 investigations stemming from Occupy Oakland activities prior to December 31, 2011, while  
22 maintaining compliance with the NSA and Department policy on all other internal  
23 investigations. If, as seems probable, the plan includes the engagement of any outside  
24 consultants, the names and qualifications of the proposed consultants must be fully identified  
25 in the plan for approval by the Monitor. The plan must provide for completion of all  
26 investigations within the time frame required for discipline by California Government Code  
27 section 3304. The plan shall also provide for completion of all investigations within the 180-  
28 day deadline required by the NSA and Department policy to the extent possible.

1 Unfortunately, the Court does not expect Defendants to meet this deadline in all cases  
2 because it has likely passed or is soon to pass for some of the earlier-filed complaints.

3 2. Subject to the restrictions included in the NSA, Defendants shall make available all  
4 information requested by the Monitor so that he may make an informed decision on whether  
5 to approve the plan.

6 3. Unless otherwise ordered, the plan shall be approved by the Monitor and shall be  
7 implemented no later than **May 14, 2012**.

8 4. If the Monitor informs the Court that Defendants have failed to comply with either  
9 of the above deadlines or have failed to cooperate with the Monitor in his requests for  
10 information, the Court will consider appropriate sanctions, including the imposition of daily  
11 or weekly monetary sanctions, until compliance is achieved.

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13 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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15 Dated: 05/01/12



16 THELTON E. HENDERSON, JUDGE  
17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
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